



## **Indiana Professional Standards Board**

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### **Indiana Definition of Highly Qualified Teacher**

Each state education agency (SEA) must develop a plan to ensure that all teachers are "highly qualified" no later than the end of the 2005-06 school year. The plan must establish annual, measurable objectives for each local school district and school to ensure that they meet the "highly qualified" requirement. In general, a "highly qualified teacher" is a teacher with full certification, a bachelor's degree, and demonstrated competence in subject knowledge and teaching skills. See Section 9101(23) of the ESEA for the complete definition of a highly qualified teacher.

#### **Charter School Teachers**

In Indiana, teachers in public charter schools are required to meet the same certification requirements as teachers in other public schools, as described below.

#### **Teachers with Bulletin 400 Licenses**

Individuals with an instructional license issued prior September 1, 1985 were required to obtain a Master's degree prior to December 31, 1990. These individuals have full state certification as defined in Sec 200.55(a) and the Master's degree meets the definition of Sec 200.56 (b)(3)(B), as highly qualified teacher.

#### **Teachers with Rules 46-47 Licenses**

Individuals with licenses issued after July 1, 1986 are required to pass state licensing tests as described in Sec 200.56(b)(2) prior to the issuance of their first standard license. These individuals are required to engage in professional development consistent with the principles outlined in ESEA section 9101(34) in order to renew the license every five years. These teachers have full state certification as defined in Sec 200.55(a) and meet the definition of highly qualified for all content areas listed on the license.

#### **Teachers New to the Profession, including Transition to Teaching Candidates**

All individuals receiving an initial standard license are required to pass rigorous state testing as described in Sec 200.56(b)(2) after completion of the undergraduate or graduate degree in the academic area in which the individual is prepared to teach. The first licenses under the performance-based preparation rules were issued in October 2003. This licensing system is aligned with the Indiana academic standards, so that these individuals also meet the definition of highly qualified as described in Sec 200.55(c)(2)(C). Teachers new to the profession holding a standard license meet the definition of highly qualified for content areas appearing on the license.

### **Teachers holding an Emergency Permit**

As a minimum, any teacher who has credentials waived on a temporary basis in Indiana **MUST** hold an undergraduate degree. Emergency permits are issued for individuals holding a teaching license who are teaching out of field or individuals with an undergraduate degree, but not in education. These individuals must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward full certification (Sec 200.56(a)(ii)(4)) by completing at least 6 credit hours of coursework annually. Satisfactory progress must be documented by the license advisor at the teacher preparation institution where the candidate is enrolled. Under the new licensing rules, the emergency permit can be renewed annually for a period not to exceed three years, only if the candidate provides documentation of satisfactory progress toward full certification. Individuals with an emergency permit meet the definition of highly qualified teacher.